

OKLAHOMA: EXPORTS, JOBS, AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Exports Mean Jobs for Oklahoma's Workers

- Over one-sixth (16.7 percent) of all manufacturing workers in Oklahoma depend on exports for their jobs. This is somewhat below the national-level share of manufacturing workers supported by exports (20.5 percent). (2001 data latest available)
- Export-supported jobs account for an estimated 4.8 percent of Oklahoma's total private-sector employment (about one in every 21 jobs). This is below the national average of 6.5 percent (one of every 15 jobs). (2001 data latest available)

Note: Export-related jobs estimates include only jobs supported by exports of manufactured goods; jobs generated by exports of services are excluded. Consequently, the numbers understate the total employment impact of exports on the U.S. economy.

Source: State Export-Related Employment Project, International Trade Administration & Census Bureau.

Exports Help Sustain Thousands of Oklahoma Firms—Small As Well As Large

- A total of 2,551 companies exported goods from Oklahoma locations in 2001. Of those, 2,090 (82 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.
- Small and medium-sized firms generated slightly under one-third (31.4 percent) of Oklahoma's total exports of merchandise in 2001.

Source: Exporter Data Base, International Trade Administration & Census Bureau

Economic Globalization: A Two-Way Street for Oklahoma

- In 2002, majority-owned affiliates of foreign companies employed 36,500 workers in Oklahoma.
- Over 40 percent of these foreign-investment-supported jobs (40.3 percent, or 14,700 workers) were in the manufacturing sector in 2002.
- Majority-owned affiliates of foreign firms accounted for 9.5 percent of total manufacturing employment in Oklahoma in 2001.
- Foreign investment in Oklahoma was responsible for 3.1 percent of the state's total private-industry employment in 2001.
- Major sources of Oklahoma's foreign-investment-supported jobs in 2002 were France, the United Kingdom, Japan, Canada, and Switzerland.

Note: All figures exclude employment in banks affiliated with foreign companies.

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Oklahoma Depends on World Markets

- Oklahoma's export shipments of merchandise in 2003 totaled \$2.7 billion.
- Oklahoma exported globally to 168 foreign destinations in 2003. The state's largest market that year, by far, was NAFTA member Canada, which received merchandise exports of \$1.1 billion, which was 40 percent of Oklahoma's total exports that year. Canada was followed by fellow NAFTA nation Mexico (\$221 million) and Japan (\$146 million). Other top markets included Russia, Singapore, the United Kingdom, China, the United Arab Emirates, Germany, and France.
- Russia is Oklahoma's biggest growth market, in dollar terms. Export shipments to Russia rose from \$33 million in 1999 to \$85 million in 2003, an increase of \$52 million. Other countries which recorded large increases in merchandise exports from Oklahoma over this period were Canada (up \$51 million), the United Arab Emirates (up \$43 million), and China (up \$33 million).
- Of Oklahoma's 30 major markets, exports to Ecuador grew the fastest over the 1999-2003 period, increasing over 705 percent from \$4 million to \$29 million. Over that time span, the state also more than doubled its exports to the United Arab Emirates (up 324 percent), Peru (up 165 percent), Russia (up 160 percent), Brazil (up 125 percent), and China (up 106 percent).
- Oklahoma's leading manufactured export category is machinery manufactures, which alone accounted for \$846 million, or 32 percent, of Oklahoma's total export shipments in 2003. Other top manufactured exports that year were transportation equipment (\$467 million in exports), plastic and rubber products (\$240 million), computers and electronic products (\$202 million), fabricated metal products (\$172 million), and chemical manufactures (\$165 million).
- In dollar terms, Oklahoma's leading manufactured export growth category is machinery manufactures. Export shipments of these products during the 1999-2003 period grew from \$713 million to \$846 million. Other manufactured export categories that registered large dollar growth over that period were plastic and rubber products (up \$77 million), and processed foods (up \$40 million).
- In percentage terms, Oklahoma's fastest-growing manufactured export category is beverage and tobacco products, which grew over 6,600 percent from a modest \$34,000 in 1999 to \$2.3 million in 2003. Other manufactured exports that more than doubled during this period were leather and related products (up 472 percent), and fabric mill products (up 108 percent).

Source: Origin of Movement State Export Series, Bureau of the Census.

Caution: The Origin of Movement series allocates exports to states based on transportation origin, i.e., the state from which goods began their journey to the port (or other point) of exit from the United States. The transportation origin of exports is not always the same as the location where the goods were produced. Consequently, conclusions about "export production" in a state should not be made solely on the basis of the Origin of Movement state export figures.

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